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LAUDS KAMCHATKA MEDICAL FACILITIES

Medical facilities for the laborers are also constantly improving. The products of Kanchatha fisheries are an important item in the Soviet economy, and it behooves the authorities to guarantee a good supply of healthy workers. All of the fisheries have their own medical facilities, and some of the

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installations at larger fisheries are rather elaborate. For example, the Fishery imeni Mikoyan, on the west coast of the peninsula, is equipped with a hospital and a dispensary for ambulatory patients. In addition, there is a dispensary for bed patients with facilities for 35 people. Tents are clean, warm, and comfortable, while the tent used for deliveries is without equal. Generally the care of infants and mothers is very good.

Another example of good care for maternity cases can be found at the midwife and obstetrician point at Khayruzovo. The supervisor of this medical point came to Kamchatka two years ago and since then has been foremost in the ranks of those striving for improved medical service for the inhabitants. There are many more like her, thus explaining the excellent service being afforded by the 115-odd medical stations on the peninsula.

Young doctors arriving on Kamchatka and assigned to one of the remote outposts find their tasks difficult. They are far away from large settlements, and it is almost impossible for them to consult more experienced doctors if they have difficult cases. It is therefore most important that these young doctors take the special courses given at the Khabarovsk Medical Institute or the various hospitals in Petropavlovsk before being assigned to the field.

So far only the favorable aspects of medical service on Kamchatka have been described. There are, however, many aspects which must be improved. For example the authorities of Koryak National Okrug have not organized any field commissions for the past 2 years. Naturally, the question arises as to whether or not these administrators are aware of the needs of the inhabitants under their jurisdiction. Supply warehouses in Petropavlovsk are not short on any item, but medical services in Koryak National Okrug lack some of the most important medicinal preparations.

In the future, research should be conducted to determine the causes of diseases in the far north. Field trips by competent specialists should be made more frequently to obtain up-to-date information on the needs of northern inhabitants. The Soviet Party and state are depending on the medical profession to guarantee the successful completion of plans which have been drawn up for the development of Kamchatka Peninsula.

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